

CLAIMS

1. (Original) A transport container, preferably made of plastic material, especially for vegetables, fruit and the like, with a floorboard (2) and several preferably four, collapsible side walls (3, 4, 5, 6) that are arranged circumferentially on the floorboard (2) and can be folded down onto it, characterized in that the floorboard (2) consists of an essentially rectangular frame (8) in which there extends a floor profile (9) with a essentially smooth surface, the said floor profile (9) being stiffened by the provision of several bulges (10) that are formed by the curvature of the floor profile (9) in several space directions.

2. (Original) A transport container in accordance with Claim 1, characterized in that the floor profile (9) is essentially rectangular in shape and has a short side and a long side, where the bulges (10) are formed by an arch-like upward curvature of the floor profile (9) over the length of the short side and a wavelike shape of the floor profile (9) along the long side.

3. (Currently Amended) A transport container in accordance with Claim 1 [or Claim 2], characterized in that the bulges (10) of the floor profile (9) are at least partially separated from each other by horizontal floor sections (23).

4. (Currently Amended) A transport container in accordance with [any one of the preceding claims] Claim 1, characterized in that the floorboard (2) is provided with a stacking shoulder (11) with stacking grooves (12).

5. (Currently Amended) A transport container in accordance with [Claims 3 and 4] Claim 3, characterized in that the horizontal floor sections (23) are provided in the area of the stacking grooves (12).

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6. (Currently Amended) A transport container in accordance with [any one of the preceding claims] Claim 1, characterized in that the bulges (10) represent depressions that, starting from the horizontal floor sections (23) at the level of the upper end of the stacking [should] shoulder (11), extend right down to the bottom end of the stacking shoulder (11).

7. (Currently Amended) A transport container in accordance with [any one of the preceding claims] Claim 1, characterized in that the floor profile (9) is [prestressed] pre-stressed before being inserted in the frame (8).

8. (Currently Amended) A transport container in accordance with [any one of the preceding claims] Claim 1, characterized in that the floor profile (9) is formed as a single piece with the frame (8).

9. (Original) A transport container, preferably made of plastic material, especially for vegetables, fruit and the like, with a floorboard (2) and several, preferably four, collapsible side walls (3, 4, 5, 6) that are arranged circumferentially on the floorboard (2) and can be folded down onto it, where the collapsible side walls (3, 4, 5, 6) can be fastened to each other in the upright position by means of a fastening mechanism (7, 4) provided on adjacent side walls (3, 5; 3, 6; 5, 4; 5, 6) in which a fastening bolt (15) of fastener (7) on one side wall (3, 5) can engage with a recess in the adjacent side wall (4, 6), characterized in that the fastener (7) comprises or operates a displaceable element (16) that is essentially accommodated in the side wall (3, 5) and can be displaced against the force of an elastic spring element (14).

10. (Original) A transport container in accordance with Claim 9, characterized in that the displaceable element (16) can be operated both from the outside and the inside of the side wall (3, 5).

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11. (Currently Amended) A transport container in accordance with Claim 9 [or Claim 10], characterized in that the fastener (7) is inserted in a cutout (18) in the side wall (3, 5).

12. (Currently Amended) A transport container in accordance with [any one of Claims 9-11] Claim 9, characterized in that the fastening bolt (15) is preset in the fastened position by the force of the elastic spring element (14).

13. (Currently Amended) A transport container in accordance with [any of Claims 9 to 12] Claim 9, characterized in that the elastic spring element (14) is arranged on the displaceable element (16), where the displaceable element (16) is connected with the side wall (3, 5) via the elastic spring element.

14. (Currently Amended) A transport container in accordance with [any one of Claims 9 to 13] Claim 9, characterized in that the fastener (7) also comprises a holder plate (19) that is arranged in a fixed position in the side wall (3, 5), where the said holder plate (19) is connected to the displaceable element (16) via the elastic element (14).

15. (Currently Amended) A transport container in accordance with Claim[s] 14, characterized in that the holder plate (19) extends only over a part of the displaceable element (16), preferably over about two thirds of the displaceable element (16).

16. (Currently Amended) A transport container in accordance with [any one of Claims 9 to 15] Claim 9, characterized in that the fasteners (7) terminates substantially flush with the inside or the outside of the side wall (3, 5).

17. (Currently Amended) A transport container in accordance with [any one of Claims 9 to 16] Claim 9, characterized in that the fastening bolt (15) is provided with a contact surface (25)

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and an oblique surface (26), where the contact surface (25) comes to be situated in the recess (24) when in the fastened position, so that the side walls (3, 4, 5, 6) cannot be detached from each other without operating the displaceable element (16), while the oblique surface (26) makes it possible for the fastening bolt to glide over the adjacent side wall (3, 4, 5, 6).

18. (Currently Amended) A transport container in accordance with [any one of Claims 9 to 17] Claim 9, characterized in that the fastener (7) is held and/or guided in the fastener cutout (18) by notch elements (20, 21) in the form of projection, stay and the like.

19. (Currently Amended) A transport container in accordance with [any one of Claims 9 to 18] Claim 9, characterized in that the elastic element (14) consists of an essentially S-shaped spring.

20. (Currently Amended) A transport container in accordance with [any one of Claims 9 to 19] Claim 9, characterized in that the displaceable element (16) is provided either with a gripping trough (13) on both sides or a gripping opening passing right through the element.

21. (Currently Amended) A transport container in accordance with [any one of Claims 9 to 20] Claim 9, characterized in that the displaceable element (16) is designed as a frame body that is essentially rectangular, though preferably rounded on one side, the width of the said frame body corresponding to the width of the side wall (3, 5) in which the displaceable element is accommodated.

22. (Currently Amended) A transport container in accordance with [any one of Claims 9 to 21] Claim 9, characterized in that fastener (7) is made as a single piece from plastic material.

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